



Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2023

Date: 7.30pm, Tuesday 11 April 2023

Venue: The Cornerstone Centre, St John's Church, Princes St, Edinburgh EH2 4BJ

Committee members present (5):

David Parmee (Secretary & AGM chair); Stephen Hunter (Treasurer); Hilary Maxfield; Gill Parmee; Mike Thornton.

Members present (31):

Anne Balfour; James Boyle; Tricia Burnet; Phil Bysh; Barbara Cartwright; Philip Dean; Terita Deare; Brian Fair; Susan Fair; Elizabeth Glass; Susan Goode; Nigel Harvey; Naomi Hodgson; Mark Holling; Evie Hollington; Peter Hutchison; Peter MacDonald; Iona Macleod; Colette Nelson; Helen Petrie; Patricia Rogers; Daniela Senatore; Colin Shepherd; Alexander Sibbald; Anne Sinclair; Tessa Thomas-Pyne; Winifred Thomson; Jack Whiteleg; Shawn Waddoups; John Withington; Molly Woolgar.

In the absence of Richard Leslie (Branch Chair), David Parmee opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everybody present.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Richard Leslie, Hazel Kennedy and Stan da Prato.

2. Approval of minutes of the Lothian SOC AGM held on 12 April 2022

Copies of the minutes of the 2022 AGM had been posted to the Branch's page on the SOC website some months prior to the meeting and printed copies were available at the meeting. No comments or amendments were made. The minutes were approved on the proposal of Mike Thornton, seconded by Gill Parmee.

3. Branch Chair's report

Richard Leslie's annual report had been posted to the Branch's page on the SOC website prior to the meeting and printed copies were available at the meeting. In Richard's absence due to family commitments, David Parmee highlighted the following points.

- Richard expressed thanks to Mike Thornton and to Kathryn Cox for putting together an excellent programme for our eight indoor meetings of the season.
- The Branch runs on volunteers, from our hard-working and dedicated County Recorder, Stephen Welch, who ensures that Lothian branch contributes fully to the Club's remit to engage in bird recording; to Mark Holling who co-ordinates the influential and important monthly Discussion Group; and to the Committee who help plan and run our indoor and outdoor programmes for members. Richard thanked all for their steadfast support over the past year.
- Richard's gratitude was also expressed to all of our members for contributing throughout the year, either in their participation at events or for volunteering.

4. Branch Treasurer's report

Copies of the Branch accounts had been posted to the Branch's page on the SOC website prior to the meeting and printed copies were available at the meeting. Stephen Hunter presented his report, which covered the contribution to income from the Lothian Bird Report, the payments yet to be made to the Cornerstone Centre, the utilisation of the donation made by Gillian Herbert's family in 2022 to support the 2022 Bird Camp and the attendance of young birders at the Club's 2022 Annual Conference, and the income and expenditure items that were in effect simply passage of monies through the branch to pay for events or to refund payments for cancelled events.

The accounts were adopted on the proposal of Colin Shepherd, seconded by Hilary Maxfield.

Summary of Lothian Branch accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023:

		£
Income	Lothian Bird Report sales income	1,568.05
	Lothian Bird Report licensing revenue	55.86
	Collections at branch meetings	518.61
	Advance payments for Christmas lunches at Craighielaw Golf Club	1,149.00
	Forth Islands boat trip payments	275.00
	Total income	£3,566.52
Expenditure	Lothian Bird Report printing costs (2020 issue)	1,038.28
	Branch meeting expenses	191.19
	Donation to fund two student places at the 2022 SOC conference	268.00
	Donation to SOC Bird Camp	250.00
	Raffle prize for SOC conference	36.00
	Payment to Craighielaw Golf Club for Christmas lunches	1,178.00
	Refund of Forth Island boat trip payments due to cancellation	250.00
	Total expenditure	£3,211.47
Income surplus		£355.05
Account balance as at 31 March 2022		£3,194.05
Account balance as at 31 March 2023		£3,549.10

5. Election of committee members

No office bearer (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) was due to retire at the AGM. Office bearers are elected or re-elected every three years.

No committee member was due to retire at the AGM. Committee members are elected or re-elected every three years.

Although not due to retire, Hilary Maxfield had decided to stand down from the committee with effect from the AGM after many years of valuable service to the branch as a committee member and outing leader. On behalf of Richard Leslie, David Parmee expressed the committee's and the branch's gratitude to Hilary for all her sterling efforts and contributions over the years, which was confirmed by a resounding round of applause from those present.

6. Election of new committee members

There were no nominations of new committee members. David Parmee reminded those present that the committee could co-opt members during the year with formal election being proposed at the next AGM.

7. AOCB

Nothing was raised.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.